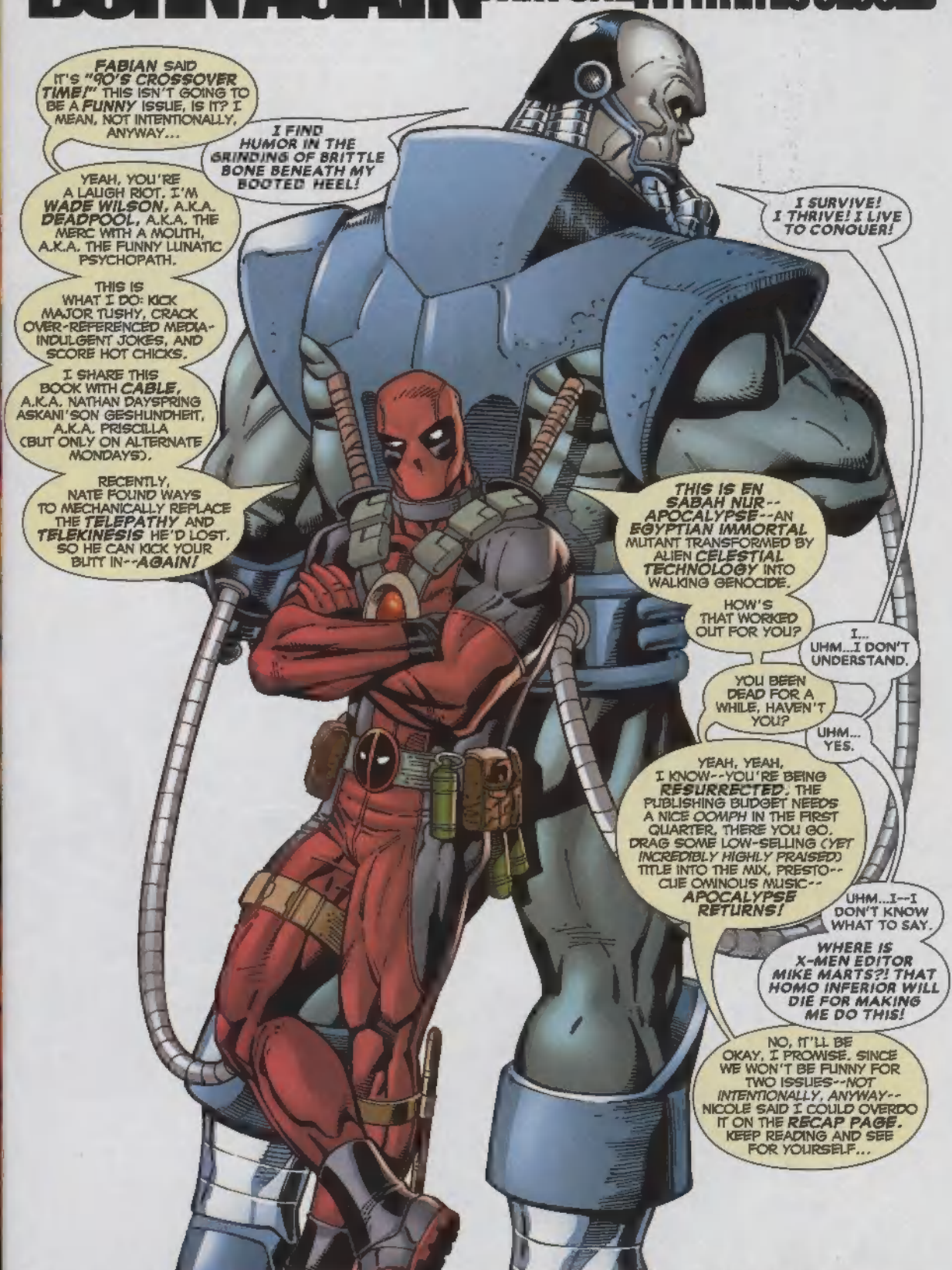
BORN AGAIN PART ONE WITH EYES CLOSED


FABIAN SAID IT'S "90'S CROSSOVER TIME!" THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE A FUNNY ISSUE, IS IT? I MEAN, NOT INTENTIONALLY, ANYWAY...
I FIND HUMOR IN THE GRINDING OF BRITTLE BONE BENEATH MY BOOTED HEEL!
I SURVIVE! I THRIVE! I LIVE TO CONQUER!
YEAH, YOU'RE A LAUGH RIOT. I'M WADE WILSON, A.K.A. DEADPOOL, A.K.A. THE MERC WITH A MOUTH, A.K.A. THE FUNNY LUNATIC PSYCHOPATH.
THIS IS WHAT I DO: KICK MAJOR TUSHY, CRACK OVER-REFERENCED MEDIA-INDULGENT JOKES, AND SCORE HOT CHICKS.
I SHARE THIS BOOK WITH CABLE, A.K.A. NATHAN DAYSPRING ASKANI'SON GESHUNDHEIT, A.K.A. PRISCILLA (BUT ONLY ON ALTERNATE MONDAYS).
RECENTLY, NATE FOUND WAYS TO MECHANICALLY REPLACE THE TELEPATHY AND TELEKINESIS HE'D LOST. SO HE CAN KICK YOUR BUTT IN--AGAIN!
THIS IS EN SABAH NUR--APOCALYPSE--AN EGYPTIAN IMMORTAL MUTANT TRANSFORMED BY ALIEN CELESTIAL TECHNOLOGY INTO WALKING GENOCIDE.
HOW'S THAT WORKED OUT FOR YOU?
I... UHM...I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
YOU BEEN DEAD FOR A WHILE, HAVEN'T YOU?
UHM... YES.
YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW--YOU'RE BEING RESURRECTED. THE PUBLISHING BUDGET NEEDS A NICE OOMPH IN THE FIRST QUARTER. THERE YOU GO. DRAG SOME LOW-SELLING (YET INCREDIBLY HIGHLY PRAISED) TITLE INTO THE MIX, PRESTO--CUE OMINOUS MUSIC--APOCALYPSE RETURNS!
UHM...I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
WHERE IS X-MEN EDITOR MIKE MARTS?! THAT HOMO INFERIOR WILL DIE FOR MAKING ME DO THIS!
NO, IT'LL BE OKAY, I PROMISE. SINCE WE WON'T BE FUNNY FOR TWO ISSUES--NOT INTENTIONALLY, ANYWAY--NICOLE SAID I COULD OVERDO IT ON THE RECAP PAGE. KEEP READING AND SEE FOR YOURSELF...

Cable & Deadpool No. 26, May, 2006. Published Monthly by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. **APPLICATION TO MAIL PERIODICAL POSTAGE RATES IS PENDING AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** © 2006 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. $2.99 per copy in the U.S. and $4.25 in Canada (GST #R127032852) in the direct market and $2.99 per copy in the U.S. and $4.25 in Canada (GST #R127032852) through the newsstand; Canadian Agreement #40668537. **Printed in the USA.** Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. $27.00; Canada $37.00; Foreign $39.00. **POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO Cable & Deadpool, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 0520. TELEPHONE # (800) 217-9158. FAX # (603) 288-0877. subscriptions@marvelsubs.com.** AVI ARAD, Chief Creative Officer; ALAN FINE, President & CEO Of Marvel Toys and Marvel Publishing, Inc.; DAVID BOGART, VP Of Publishing Operations; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIEL, Managing Editor; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Joe Maimone, Advertising Director, at jmaimone@marvel.com or 212-576-8534. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158.

THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO...

HE WAS CALLED THE *TRAVELER*. HE ROAMED THROUGH TIME AND SPACE, AN ANOMALY--A CURIOSITY--

--BARELY A *FOOTNOTE* IN HISTORY, LOST TO TIME AND TIDE, YET HE INFLUENCED--KNOWINGLY OR NOT--THE FUTURE OF THE ENTIRE PLANET.

HE HAD DISRUPTED THE PLANS OF MY MASTER MANY TIMES BEFORE...

...AND AS I WATCHED HIM HACK HIS WAY THROUGH THE *DARK RIDER*'S AN ELITE CADRE COMPOSED OF THE BEST *WARRIORS* GATHERED FROM ACROSS THE WORLD--

--I KNEW THE OUTCOME OF THIS BATTLE, SPLASHED IN THE BLOOD OF THE FALLEN, WOULD CHANGE THE WORLD.

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST HAD BECOME THE MANTRA THROUGH WHICH WE SOUGHT TO RULE.
IT WAS THE DEFINING, CONQUERING, MOTIVATION OF OUR MASTER--
--EN SABAH NUR!
SUCH SIMPLE WORDS TO SPOUT WHEN YOU ALWAYS KNEW YOU WOULD PROVE FITTEST, BUT THAT DAY...
...I FEARED FOR HIS LIFE...AND MORE, MY OWN.
WHAT WOULD BECOME OF OZYMANDIAS WITHOUT AN APOCALYPSE TO DEFINE HIM?
TRAVELER...
SHAKASH!

ENOUGH! I HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU!
THEN YOU'RE IN FOR A LIFETIME OF FRUSTRATION...
KACHUNG!
YOU HAVE TRACKED ME THROUGH DILMUN, VEXED ME ACROSS THE PHOENICIAN SANDS--
--BUT I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU FURTHER PASSAGE!
OUR BATTLE ENDS HERE AND NOW!
HERE-- WHERE MY FUTURE LIES!
NOW-- WHEN YOUR LIFE ENDS!
THUGGT

YOU... YOU DO NOT BLEED?
YOUR ARM-- IT IS ARTIFICIAL-- AND SO SIMILAR TO THE WONDERS I UNCOVERED WITHIN THE CONVEYANCE TO THE STARS...
TRAVELER-- WHAT- WHAT KIND OF MAN ARE YOU?
FEEKOW!
I'M THE MAN OF TOMORROW...
...WHICH MAKES YOU--
--HISTORY!

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST.
IT WAS NOT SOLELY BY SINEW AND STONE, NOR BY SKILL AND GUILE.
EN SABAH NUR HAD SAID TIME AND AGAIN THAT "THE MAN WHO SEES TOMORROW WILL LIVE THROUGH THE DAY."
...WHO HAD JUST BEEN PROVEN BLIND!
AND THERE WE WERE...ALL OF US...ENTHRALLED FOR SO LONG TO A MAN OF VISION...
AND WHAT OF US THEN, WHO HAD BEEN LED BY THE BLIND? THE DARK RIDERS, AT LEAST...
...SAW THE LIGHT.

OZYMANDIAS...
...YOUR KING IS DEAD AND I HAVE NO INTEREST IN THE CROWN YOU FOLLOW.
REMEMBER THIS DAY. REMEMBER THERE IS ALWAYS SOMEONE SMARTER.
SOMEONE STRONGER. SOMEONE FIERCER.
BEING FIT TO SURVIVE IS NOT THE ENDS BUT THE MEANS...
...THAT MAKE YOU RESPONSIBLE TO HELP THOSE WHO AREN'T!
HE WALKED AWAY...
...AS I WATCHED THE LIFEBLOOD OF MY MASTER SLIP THROUGH MY FINGERTIPS...
...SEEING THE POTENTIAL OF...
...TOMORROW...

SOMEWHERE IN AKKABA.
TODAY.
I HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT DAY OFTEN.
IT HAS BEEN A VERY LONG LIFE, WITH TIME TO CONTEMPLATE MUCH...
...AND PLAN FOR THAT MUCH MORE.
I STILL THINK OF THAT DAY OFTEN...
...ESPECIALLY IN THE DAYS BEFORE ANOTHER RISING...

PROVIDENCE.
CABLE'S ISLAND SANCTUARY IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC. THREE WEEKS AGO.
YOU KNOW, "WHO'S THE BOSS" IS EVEN FUNNIER WHEN IT'S TRANSLATED INTO FARSI ...
SO WHY'S EVERYONE GATHERED IN CABLE'S INFONET CHAMBER AND WHY DID YOU GUYS FLY ME IN FROM MANHATTAN IF HE'S NOT EVEN HERE?
HEY, "THE 700 CLUB"/ WHY SOMEONE HASN'T ELECTED PAT ROBERTSON PRESIDENT YET IS BEYOND ME...
NATHAN HAS BEEN MISSING FOR TWO WEEKS WITH NO CONTACT.
BLACK BOX HAS SCOURED THE CURRENTS OF THE INFOSTREAM, BUT NATHAN'S TRAIL IS NEGLIGIBLE.
OUR CHIEF OF SECURITY, JOHANN KRIEK, MAINTAINS HIS OLD INTERPOL CONTACTS. THEY'VE INFORMED HIM THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL MUSEUM THEFTS IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS.
OKAY, I FOLLOWED YOU AS FAR AS NATE BEING ON THE GOODYEAR BLIMP, BUT NOW YOU LOST ME.
GOOD... YEAR...?
...
I SAID NEGLIGIBLE, YOU IDIOT, NOT DIRIGIBLE!
OH LORD, WHY WAS IT SO EASY FOR ME TO FOLLOW YOUR TWISTED MIND...?
IRENE MERRYWEATHER, FORMER GIRL REPORTER, NOW CABLE'S CHIEF OF STAFF--WE WERE DESTINED TO FIND GREAT LOVE.

SO...YOU NEED MY HELP? IT'S OKAY TO SAY IT, Y'KNOW.
I KNOW IT IS, WADE.
SO SAY IT.
EXCUSE ME?
SAY YOU NEED MY HELP TO FIND NATE AND I'LL HELP YOU.
NO PROB. LOOK HOW EASY IT IS--BODYSLIDE BY TWO!
I NEED YOUR HELP, WADE.
UHM...WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MUTUAL TELEPORTING SCHTICK NATE AND I HAD GOING?
WHEN ONE OF US WOULD SAY "BODYSLIDE BY TWO!" AND WE'D BE JOINED TOGETHER INSTANTLY IN TIME AND SPACE?
REMEMBER...?
USELESS...
BLACK BOX...?
I CAN PROVIDE A VERY FAINT TRAIL TO FOLLOW.
NATHAN WAS TRACKING THE MOVEMENT OF VARIOUS STOLEN ARTIFACTS.
BUT WHY? AND WHERE IS HE NOW?
SOUNDS LIKE YOU 'N' ME ARE GOIN' ON A ROAD TRIP!
SIGH
I'LL PACK THE MASSAGE OIL...

YEARS PASSED BEFORE THE TRAVELER CROSSED MY PATH AGAIN...
PLEASE--WE ARE BUT HUMBLE MERCHANTS, CONSIGNED TO CARRY GOODS TO A VILLAGE BEYOND THE FOOT OF THE HO-LO MOUNTAINS--
TAKE IT ALL--JUST SPARE OUR LIVES!
THE TWO AREN'T MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE...

PLEASE--WE KNOW NOT WHAT THIS STRANGE CARGO IS ...
BUT WHAT YOU *DO* KNOW IS...
"...WHERE IT'S GOING AND WHO IT'S BEING DELIVERED TO..."
YOU ARE LATE!
THEY STOPPED TO PICK UP A WEARY TRAVELER...
AH--
SO I'M CURIOUS...
...HOW DID YOU OBTAIN TECHNOLOGY FROM THE *FUTURE?*
YOU ARE QUITE MISTAKEN, TRAVELER. THESE MATERIALS WERE ACQUIRED...
...FROM THE ANCIENT PAST!

KKABA. TODAY.
HERE?
HERE.
RIGHT...?
TRACKED A BLACK IN A MUSEUM THROUGH TRUCK. THAT TRUCK'S ON CHECK-IN--
--TRIANGULATES TO A DIAMETER THAT--
JUST SHUT UP AND SAY "YES."
THIS MAKES NO SENSE. IF CABLE IS TEN STEPS OF US, THEN WHY ISN'T HERE?
OR WHY THIS PLACE STILL STANDING?
I DON'T KNOW.
ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT.
GRRRTHUMP

YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED OUTSIDE.
OF [redacted] I SHOULD HAVE, BUT WHO'S GOING TO MAKE [redacted] YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING INCREDIBLY STUPID THAT RESULTS IN THE DESTRUCTION OF THE [redacted] UNIVERSE?
WELL, CERTAINLY NOT ME.
HIEROGLYPHS... [redacted] ISN'T THAT CHINESE?
BLACK BOX...?
SCROLLING A TRANSLATION NOW... IT APPEARS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE HAKKA DIALECT...
WHAT DOES IT SAY?
"IN APPRECIATION [redacted] THE STRUGGLE. IN ADULATION OF THE ONSLAUGHT. IN PREPARATION FOR...
[redacted] RISING OF APOCALYPSE."

COOL!
COOL? WHAT'RE YOU, CRAZY?
WHY AM I ASKING...?
IRENE, WHAT'S HAPPENING?
WADE IS RUSHING HEADLONG INTO A POTENTIAL SLAUGHTER [redacted] I'M FOLLOWING HIM.
GOOD LUCK WITH THAT.
YEEE-HAAA!
APOCY-LIPS IS [redacted] MY NEWEST FAVORITE WORLD-CONQUERING GUY EVER!
I MEAN, CHECK THESE GUYS OUT! THEY'RE LIKE LIVING, BREATHING, WALKING MCFARLANE TOYS!
GAREB--I [redacted] MORE TRANSLATIONS--WHAT ARE THESE--THINGS--HERE TO PROTECT?

W[illegible] CARES, LONG A[illegible] THEY WANT TO FIGHT!

AAAAH!

IRENE--?

I'M OKAY--

--WELL, I'M NOT--BUT I'M STILL ALIVE--

ARE YOU SEEING THIS?

YES.

TRYING TO DECIPHER IT NOW...

NEVER MIND.

WHAT?

OH.
A SPHINX INSIDE THE SPHINX?
THE TECHNOLOGICAL FOU IS NEARLY AN EXACT MATCH TO THE THAT D FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS--
--I'M CROSS-REFERENCING NATHAN'S ARCHIVES WITH FILES FROM THE COMMISSION ON SUPERHUMAN ACTIVITY--
--IDENTIFYING SKRULL TECHNOLOGY-- ALSO BADO BUILT THIS CRAFT IT TOGETHER FROM VARIOUS SOURCES...

THEN THIS WOULD DEFINITELY BE SOMETHING THAT NATE WOULD--
AAAH!
SON OF A--NATHAN, WHERE ARE YOU?!
Hmmmmmmm
GAREB, I THINK I JUST WET MYSELF...
CAN I SEE?
THEY'RE FOLLOWING YOU?
I HEARD YOU SCREAM!
BUT THEY'RE FOLLOWING YOU!
BUT I HEARD YOU SCREAM!
UHM... LET'S TABLE THIS CONVERSATION.
ON ACCOUNT OF THE ANCIENT SPACESHIP OPENING UP AND SOMEONE COMING FROM INSIDE IT?
I HATE YOU.

THIS IS SO COOL!
YOU IDIOT-- YOU CAN'T EVEN BEAT THE DOG SOLDIERS--
I'M PRETTY SURE THEY'RE CALLED DARK RIDERS.
WHATEVER-- YOU CAN'T STOP THEM--HOW DO YOU EXPECT TO STOP APOCALYPSE?!
SHE IS CORRECT...
THEY'RE BOWING?
...BUT REALLY, IRENE...

...WHOEVER SAID I WANTED TO *STOP* APOCALYPSE FROM COMING BACK?
TO BE CONTINUED!

MARVEL
26
.com
WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?
05.03.06
CABLE & DEADPOOL
NICIEZA
MEDINA
TADEO
BLOOD OF APOCALYPSE PREQUEL!
DIRECT EDITION
RATED A
$2.99 US $4.25 CAN
02611